

THE TRAILS OF WESTERN ENO RIVER STATE PARK

General Information:

The Fews Ford and Cabelands trails offer 14.19 miles of hiking along the Eno River and through the rugged hills on either side. Mature hardwoods provide the canopy for most of the trails. Trails vary from easy to strenuous. All trails have sections of rugged footing and several include steep climbs. Hikes can be as short as a quick walk to the river from the parking lot or many miles by combining intersecting trails. The trails are marked with blazes painted on trees and brown signs with white letters.

Trail Rules and Safety:

1. Bicycles are not permitted on Eno River State Park Trails.
2. No motorized vehicles other than official state park vehicles are permitted on state park trails.
3. Dogs must be constrained by a leash everywhere in NC State Parks.
4. Fires are permitted only in the fire rings at the group camp and picnic areas.
5. Take only photographs, leave only footprints. The removal or damage of any plant, animal, rock, or artifact is prohibited. Dispose of trash in the cans provided.
6. Alcoholic beverages are dangerous in the wilderness and prohibited in NC State Parks.
7. The river and streams are not tested for drinking purposes. Drink only properly purified water. There are water fountains and spigots at the picnic areas and the park office.
8. Chiggers and ticks are seasonally plentiful in weedy areas of the park. Avoid them by staying on maintained trails. Check for ticks after passing through bushes or tall weeds.
9. Snakes will leave you alone if you leave them alone. Do not put hands or feet where you cannot see, or sit down without looking first. Snakes are a critical part of the park's ecology. Killing any snake is prohibited. Walk around them if you don't like them.
10. Poison ivy is plentiful in some areas of the park. Learn to identify and avoid it. Stay on maintained trails to avoid exposure.
11. Trails are often slippery when wet, particularly near the river.
12. Watch your step, footing is rough and uneven on much of the trails.
13. Off trail exploring and orienteering are permitted but it is recommended only attempting these activities with persons trained in wilderness land navigation.
14. There are no protected swimming areas in the park. All water bodies are natural and have subsurface hazards. Avoid water when thunder or lightning are present.

15. Camping requires a permit and fee, and is only allowed in the backcountry sites off Fanny's Ford Trail and the group camp off the Cox Mountain Trail. Registration is at the park office.
16. Check with park staff regarding other North Carolina State Park regulations. More detailed information regarding camping, educational programs, fishing, picnicking, facilities, nature, and history can be obtained from staff and park publications.

Trail Descriptions

Cox Mountain

blazed with blue dots

Begin this hike in the Fews Ford picnic area. It is a loop, and is a 3.75 mile round trip. The hike can be lengthened by adding the Fanny's Ford Trail loop which intersects from the northeast. The trail passes beside the picnic area down to the river and crosses the river on a suspension foot bridge. It continues gradually up hill to a sharp northerly turn where it follows the old Hillsborough Coach Road for a short distance and becomes a loop going over the top and around the base of Cox Mountain. The trail climbs 270 feet in elevation from the river to the hill top. A long steep climb and descent is required. After looping the hill, take the trail back to the bridge.

Fanny's Ford

blazed with purple dots

This trail is accessed by hiking the Cox Mountain Trail from the picnic area north to the Fanny's Ford loop. This trail is a 1.01 mile loop but the round trip from the picnic area is 2.85 miles. The hike is generally easy with only short, gentle hills and a lot of flat terrain along the river. The trail is laced with history. A portion of the route is the old Hillsborough Coach Road, reaching the Few's Ford river crossing, and passing through the old Few's Mill race.

Eno Trace

blazed with red dots

This self-guided nature trail has information stations posted relating some of the history and ecology of the Eno River. Eno Trace turns west off the Cox Mountain trail on top of the bluff between the picnic area and the river. Round trip from the picnic area is 0.5 mile. A short but steep set of steps goes down the bluff from the Cox Mountain Trail then makes a loop beside the river and over a gentle hill. Along the river there is a short stretch of trail with rugged rocky footing. The Wilderness Cabin can be seen across the river. The return is back up the steps to the Cox Mountain Trail.

Buckquarter Creek

blazed with red dots

This 1.5 mile loop trail begins at the Piper-Cox Museum parking lot and turns upriver at Few's Ford. The most spectacular rapids on the river are viewed from a rock outcrop along the trail. A staircase takes hikers over the outcrop. The trail follows the river and Buckquarter Creek, then turns upland going over rolling

hills. 2/10 mile along the river is rugged, rocky footing. This hike may be lengthened by crossing the Buckquarter Creek bridge and going west on the Holden Mill loop or following the Ridge Trail north from the intersection.

Holden Mill

blazed with yellow dots

This 2.6 mile combination of two loops continues west from the Buckquarter Creek Trail from a bridge spanning the creek. Round trip from the Piper-Cox Museum parking lot is 4.1 miles. The larger loop follows the river bank 0.8 mile on generally flat terrain but does require crossing short rocky areas and goes up and over a ridge requiring a long, strenuous 250 foot rise in elevation. The smaller western loop is an easy hike around the stone remains of Holden's Mill. The river segment is characterized by rock outcrops, giant boulders, and frequent rapids.

Ridge*

blazed with blue U's

The Ridge Trail is part of the old Ridge Road to Roxboro. Hikers paying attention may see what remains of three 19th century homes along this 1.27 mile route. It starts at an intersection with the Buckquarter Creek Trail and provides access to the Shakori and Knight Trails. At the north end the trail leaves the park at a gate and one of two intersections with the Shakori Trail. Future plans call for the Ridge Trail to be extended north. This hike requires crossing Buckquarter Creek by stepping on large rocks or wading. West of the creek the trail ascends 235 feet over 7/10 mile. This trail can be combined with the Shakori Trail to make a loop.

Shakori

blazed with yellow U's

This is a 1.04 mile hike, intersecting the Ridge Trail at the south and northwest ends and can be used with the Ridge Trail to make a loop. Hikers may glimpse the chimneys of a 19th century home and the rotting chips of an old saw mill site. From the southern Ridge Trail intersection it follows Buckquarter Creek north, then turns west to include a 200 foot elevation rise up a moderate slope. Future plans call for the Shakori Trail to cross the Ridge Trail at the northwestern intersection and continue south to the Holden Mill Trail.

Knight and Piedmont*

blazed with red U's

Knight and Piedmont Trails are primarily accesses for neighborhoods off Pleasant Green Road, but any hiker may use them. The Knight Trail turns east off Ridge Trail and goes up a steep hill 0.34 mile to the park boundary. The Piedmont Trail is 0.18 mile of utility right-of-way which crosses the Knight Trail. There is no parking access to these trails.

Cabelands

blazed with red dots

This is a 1.2 mile loop starting from the Cabelands Access parking lot. Stone foundations and the millrace earth works of the old Cabe Mill are visible from the trail, especially when the leaves are off the trees. This stretch of river is in the area known as Cabe's Gorge and is a particularly rocky area.

Eno Quarry

blazed with blue dots

This trail starts from the upper loop of the Cabelands trail and descends a gentle ridge 0.38 mile crossing Rhodes Creek at the base of the Eno Quarry. From 1960-1964 stone was removed from this site for the construction of Interstate 85. After ceasing operation the quarry gradually filled with ground water leaving a 4 acre scenic pond next to the river. The trail continues with a 0.42 mile loop around the quarry rim. Caution should be taken around the quarry. It is dangerous with steep drop offs, no shallow areas, depths at the banks generally exceeding 25 feet, and maximum depths of 60 feet. There are hidden hazards below the surface near the banks. Banks are difficult to climb. For safety, stay on the marked trail. There are openings on the bank suitable for fishing.

***These trails exit the park. Enter private property with permission only.**

Information

To discover more about Eno River State Park and to obtain reservation and fee information, contact:

Eno River State Park
6101 Cole Mill Road
Durham, NC 27705-9275
Phone: (919) 383-1686
Fax: (919) 382-7378
Email: eno.river@ncmail.net

To discover other North Carolina State Parks and Recreation Areas, contact:

NC Division of Parks and Recreation
Dept. of Environment and Natural Resources
1615 Mail Service Center
Raleigh, NC 27699-1615
(919) 733-PARK
Web: www.ncsparks.net

25,000 copies of this public document were printed at a cost of \$876.47 or .04 cents per copy.

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NC Division of Parks and Recreation

Department of Environment and Natural Resources

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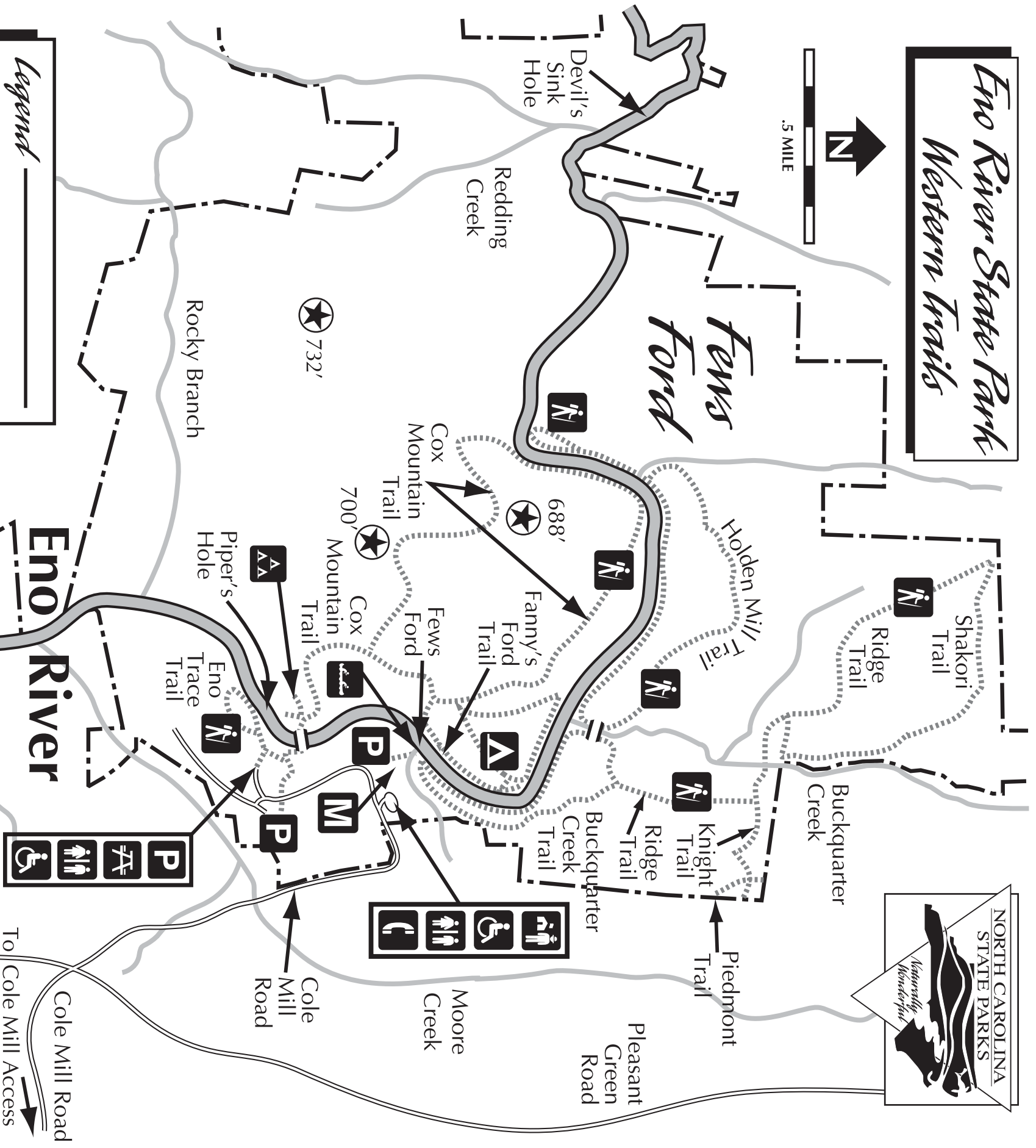
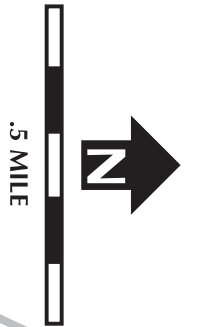
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Eno River State Park

Western trails



Legend

	Accessible
	Boundary Line
	Bridge
	Canoe Access
	Foot Bridge
	Group Camping
	Hiking Trail
	Museum
	Parking
	Park Office
	Picnic Area
	Point of Interest
	Primitive Camping
	Public Telephone
	Restrooms
	Road-Multilane
	Road-Paved

PARK HOURS

Park Opens:	• Fews Ford 8:00 a.m.
	• Cabellands 8:30 a.m.
Park Closes:	May–August:
	• Cabellands 8:30 p.m.
	• Fews Ford 9:00 p.m.
	September & April:
	• Cabellands 7:30 p.m.
	• Fews Ford 8:00 p.m.
	October & March:
	• Cabellands 6:30 p.m.
	• Fews Ford 7:00 p.m.
	November–February:
	• Cabellands 5:30 p.m.
	• Fews Ford 6:00 p.m.

